

Message

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Sent: 2/26/2018 10:23:03 PM
To: Zellem, Michael [Michael.Zellem@nh.gov]; Gutro, Doug [Gutro.Doug@epa.gov]
CC: Scott, Robert [Robert.Scott@des.nh.gov]
Subject: North Hampton Car Wash Follow Up

Mac,

This email follows up on the discussion you and I had last week regarding a car wash in North Hampton.

As background, you may remember that the Aquarion water supply wells in North Hampton were found to contain PFAS. This contamination was found through Aquarion's own testing in 2014 and 2015, as required by EPA's drinking water program, and through voluntary testing in 2016 and 2017. In most cases, the results indicated very low concentrations of PFAS. The highest levels were detected in Aquarion Well #6 at less than 30 ppt of combined PFOA and PFOS. Aquarion Well #6 was taken out of service on August 14, 2017. When that news broke, the initial reaction of community members was that Coakley Landfill was the source of the PFAS, although the wells were about 3 miles from Coakley.

In September 2016, PFAS-contaminated groundwater was found by NHDES to be emanating from a car wash at 22 Lafayette Road in North Hampton, less than a 1/2 mile from the contaminated Aquarion wells. The high levels of PFAS coming from the car wash have a similar fingerprint to the types of PFAS found in the Aquarion water supply well that was shut down. The levels do not exceed EPA's 70 ppt health advisory value for PFOA and PFAS, but contain levels of other unregulated PFAS in the thousands of parts per trillion. More recent groundwater samples collected by NHDES from other drinking water and groundwater monitoring wells in the vicinity of the car wash and Aquarion Well #6 show total PFAS results ranging from ND to 284.8 ppt. Thus far, no additional sources have been found. **As the lead regulator for the car wash site, NHDES can provide further technical details on that project, and any other potential PFAS sources beyond the Coakley Landfill - where EPA is the lead regulator.**

In the meantime, EPA and NHDES, in order to better characterize the potential for the migration of PFAS through bedrock, were requiring the Coakley Landfill Group to perform a bedrock investigation. The public concern over the Aquarion wells put additional pressure on EPA, NHDES and the Coakley Landfill Group to rapidly undertake the deep bedrock study, despite the lack of a likely hydraulic connection to the landfill. We will continue to work with NHDES and CLG to fully investigate and characterize any potential migration of PFAS from the Coakley Landfill site, especially in bedrock, and document all additional sources of PFAS that may be discovered.

We look forward to working with you and NHDES on these efforts.

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